

## **MINUTES**

### **MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 65th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION**

#### **COMMITTEE ON FISH, WILDLIFE AND PARKS**

**Call to Order:** Chair Kelly Flynn, on January 5, 2017 at 3:00 PM, in Room 152 Capitol

#### **ROLL CALL**

**Members Present:**

Rep. Kelly Flynn, Chair (R)  
Rep. Bob Brown, Vice Chair (R)  
Rep. Bridget Smith, Vice Chair (D)  
Rep. Zach Brown (D)  
Rep. Virginia Court (D)  
Rep. Tom Jacobson (D)  
Rep. George G. Kipp III (D)  
Rep. Casey Knudsen (R)  
Rep. Denley M. Loge (R)  
Rep. Jean Price (D)  
Rep. Matt Regier (R)  
Rep. Adam Rosendale (R)  
Rep. Ray L. Shaw (R)  
Rep. Sharon Stewart-Peregoy (D)  
Rep. Sue Vinton (R)  
Rep. Tom Welch (R)  
Rep. Kerry White (R)

**Members Excused:** None

**Members Absent:** None

**Staff Present:** Jessica Riffel, Committee Secretary  
Leanne Kurntz, Legislative Branch

**Audio Committees:** These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. The link to the audio recording of the meeting is available on the Legislative Branch website.

**Committee Business Summary:**

Hearing & Date Posted: HB 69, 1/2/2017; HB 98, 1/2/2017; HB 108, 1/2/2017

**HEARING ON HB 69**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:02:56 Rep. Virginia Court (D), HD 50, opened the hearing on HB 69, Extend sunset for paddlefish caviar program.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:09:53 Eileen Ryce, Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks (FWP)  
[EXHIBIT\(fih04a01\)](#)

00:15:26 Brian Ohs, Montana Trout Unlimited

**Opponents' Testimony:**

00:16:28 Bob Gilbert, City of Glendive  
[EXHIBIT\(fih04a02\)](#)

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

00:21:55 Rep. White  
00:22:29 Eileen Ryce, FWP  
00:22:36 Rep. White  
00:23:09 Eileen Ryce, FWP  
00:23:34 Rep. Rosendale  
00:23:52 Eileen Ryce, FWP  
00:24:18 Rep. Rosendale  
00:24:25 Eileen Ryce, FWP  
00:24:47 Chair Flynn  
00:25:07 Eileen Ryce, FWP  
00:25:20 Chair Flynn  
00:25:41 Eileen Ryce, FWP

**Closing by Sponsor:**

00:26:12 Rep. Court

**HEARING ON HB 98**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:27:59 Rep. Janet Ellis (D), HD 81, opened the hearing on HB 98, Revise classifications of striped skunk, civet cat.

[EXHIBIT\(fih04a03\)](#)

**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:32:45 Ken McDonald, Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks (FWP)  
[EXHIBIT\(fih04a04\)](#)

00:35:49 Nick Gevock, Montana Wildlife Federation (MWF)

00:36:49 Amy Seaman, Montana Audubon

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

00:38:22 Rep. White  
00:39:12 Rep. Ellis  
00:40:36 Rep. B. Brown  
00:41:19 Rep. Ellis  
00:42:40 Rep. B. Brown  
00:43:15 Rep. Ellis

**Closing by Sponsor:**

00:44:41 Rep. Ellis

**HEARING ON HB 108**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:46:40 Rep. Bridget Smith (D), HD 31, opened the hearing on HB 108, Allocate wild buffalo licenses to tribes for traditional purposes.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:48:58 Rep. Peppers  
00:50:17 Mike Volesky, Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks (FWP)  
00:52:34 Rep. Windy Boy  
00:53:05 Sen. Whitford  
00:54:35 Nick Gevock, Montana Wildlife Federation (MWF)

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

00:55:32 Rep. Court  
00:56:15 Mike Volesky, FWP  
00:58:38 Rep. C. Knudsen  
00:58:59 Mike Volesky, FWP  
00:59:30 Rep. Z. Brown  
01:00:09 Mike Volesky, FWP  
01:04:20 Rep. Welch  
01:04:39 Mike Volesky, FWP  
01:05:35 Rep. Welch  
01:06:03 Mike Volesky, FWP  
01:06:52 Rep. Kipp III  
01:07:34 Mike Volesky, FWP  
01:08:19 Rep. Kipp III  
01:09:43 Mike Volesky, FWP  
01:11:25 Rep. White  
01:12:33 Mike Volesky, FWP  
01:13:19 Rep. Kipp III

01:13:37 Mike Volesky, FWP

01:15:10 Rep. Kipp III

01:15:50 Mike Volesky, FWP

**Closing by Sponsor:**

01:16:06 Rep. B. Smith

**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 01:18:06

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Jessica Riffel, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

**EXHIBIT**([fih04aad.pdf](#))